

# STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY MAINE FOREST SERVICE

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### **PERMIT**

#### **BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION PERMIT BCP 14001**

The staff of the Maine Forest Service, after reviewing the application and supporting documents submitted by Odias Bachelder II for Bridge Construction Permit BCP 14001, finds the following facts:

- Applicant: Odias Bachelder II 68 Felicia Lane Portland, Maine 04103
- 2. Date of Completed Application: February 13, 2014
- 3. Location of Proposal: Langtown Township (T2 R3 WBKP), Franklin County
- 4. Zoning: (P-SL1) Shoreland Protection Subdistrict (M-GN) General Management Subdistrict
- 5. Approximate Time Period of Operation: March 1, 2014 to April 8, 2014
- 6. Affected Waterbody: South Branch of the Dead River

#### Proposal:

- 7. The applicant proposes to construct a temporary bridge crossing on the South Branch of the Dead River to access approximately 60 acres of timber on property owned by the applicant.
- 8. The applicant proposes to utilize a processor to fell and process trees in the harvest area and then transport the forest products via forwarder across a forty six foot temporary bridge to a landing outside of the shoreland zone on the applicant's property. A grapple skidder will also be utilized to transport tops and limbs across the temporary bridge to the same landing.
- 9. The applicant plans to lay approximately twelve, 46+/- foot long trees onto cribwork set on the frozen banks of the river. Prefabricated bridge mats will then be set on these trees which will become the travel surface for the logging machinery.

10. The applicant also plans to armor the approaches to the bridge with additional wooden bridge mats and/or harvested trees to prevent the disturbance of the river banks as a result of transporting forest products. (See Exhibit E 1 & 2)

#### **Comments:**

- 11. None of the reviewers had any issues with the applicant's proposal. All the reviewers urged that the applicant implement BMPs and any other actions necessary to prevent erosion and siltation.
- 12. Inland Fisheries and Wildlife recommended that the applicant consider installing a center support of local wooden material laid on the ice and snow to assist in supporting the bridge span. They also requested that the support be left when the remainder of the bridge superstructure is removed; so the support can be dispersed by the river to improve fisheries habitat.

Based upon the above proposal, the MFS concludes that if carried out in compliance with the conditions below, the proposal will meet the Criteria for Approval, 12 M.R.S. § 685-A(1) of the Commission's Statutes, and Maine Forest Service Rules, Chapters 20 and 27.

## Therefore, the MFS staff approves the application of Odias Bachelder II with the following conditions:

- 1. The harvest operation will end and the temporary bridge will be removed by April 8, 2014.
- 2. The temporary bridge shall be installed at the site of the existing ford and at least 90 degrees to the river and shall be constructed as shown in Exhibit E page 1.
- 3. Transporting of forest products will be suspended during periods of weather five degrees above freezing when site conditions allow for equipment to break through the ice and snow to unfrozen soil or water at the crossing.
- 4. There will be a licensed professional forester on site for a minimum of two days per week throughout the duration of the harvest operation to monitor site conditions at the bridge crossing. The forester will suspend the transporting of forest products as outlined in 3 above.
- 5. Any slash which has been deposited as a result of skidding across the river must be removed from the crossing area by the end of the operation.
- 6. There will be no slash left in skid trails within 50 feet of the high water mark of the river.
- 7. At the end of the operation Best Management Practices shall be installed, as needed, to close out the skid trails in the shoreland zones and at the bridge site to prevent soil movement and prevent siltation.

- 8. The applicant is requested to install a center support composed of natural wooden materials available from the harvest site which may be left in the river when the remainder of the bridge components are removed.
- 9. The applicant must abide by any and all environmental rules and regulations applicable to this project.

If no person requests that the Maine Forest Service review the decision of staff within 30 days of the date of this staff decision, this permit becomes final agency action subject to review of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act. Pursuant to 5 M.R.S. §§ 11001 *et seq.*, a person aggrieved by an MFS permit decision may appeal the MFS's final action to Superior Court. As part of such an appeal, a person aggrieved may seek judicial review of the components of MFS's final action and permitting decision.

This permit is approved only upon the above stated conditions and remains valid only if the permittee complies with all of these conditions. In addition, any person aggrieved by this decision of the staff may, within 30 days, request that the Maine Forest Service review the decision.

DONE AND DATED AT OLD TOWN, MAINE, THIS 6th DAY OF MARCH, 2014.

James P. Ecker Regional Enforcement Coordinator Maine Forest Service Box 415

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